SAPTA

824. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bangladesh has sought a bigger reduction on a wide range of its products under the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the items on which further reduction of duty has been sought; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) The list of items for exchange of tariff concessions under SAPTA in the First Round had been finalised in April 1995, *inter alia*, on the basis of a request list received from Bangladesh and after negotiations in the Inter Governmental Group set up under SAPTA. These concessions have become operational with effect from 7.12.1995. The Government of Bangladesh have sought further concessions on a large number of items (about 1500). An Inter Governmental Group (IGG) has been constituted to negotiate further concessions under the Second Round of Trade Negotiations under SAPTA.

FIRs Lodged against Fair Price Shopkeepers

825. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government maintains the details of the FIRs lodged against fair price shopkeepers for various irregularities in PDS and action taken against officials of Civil Supplies Department for their involvement in such irregularities by various State Governments in the country;

(b) if so, the details of FIRs lodged and action taken against officials in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years with year-wise and district-wise details;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to review its decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) This Department does not maintain details of FIRs lodged against fair price shopkeepers for various irregularities in PDS and action taken against the officials. These details are being maintained by the concerned State/UT Governments as the operational responsibility for implementing the Public Distribution System rests with the State/UT Governments. The State Governments have also been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to issue (and implement) various Control Orders that they may issue from time to time.

विद्युत संयंत्रों को कोयले की आपूर्ति

826. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह पंगरोला:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गर्मी और वर्षा के मौसम के दौरान विद्युत संयंत्रों जैसे अत्यधिक खपत वाले संयंत्रों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में कोयले की आपूर्ति नहीं की जाती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा ऐसे विद्युत संयंत्रों को कोयले की पर्याप्त मात्रा में आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं अथवा उठाए जाने का प्रस्ताव है?

कोयला मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कान्ति सिंह): (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं। प्रत्येक तापीय विद्युत गृह को केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण द्वारा की गई

सिफारिशों के आधार पर कोयले का संयोजन स्थाई संयोजन समिति द्वारा स्वीकृति दी जाती है, जो कि प्रत्येक तापीय विद्युत गृह के लिये निर्धारित उत्पादन लक्ष्य पर आधारित होती है। किन्तु, कोयले का आवंटन/संचलन परिवहन संबंधी कठिनाईयों पर और यह कोयला आपूर्ति के समय पर भुगतान पर निर्भर करता है।

कोल इंडिया लि॰ तथा सिंगरैनी कोलियरीज कंपनी लि॰ से विद्युत गृहों को कोयले का वास्तविक प्रेषण अप्रैल से जून, 1996 की अवधि के दौरान 47.58 मि॰ टन (अनंतिम) का प्रेषण किया गया जबकि पिछले वर्ष के इसी अवधि के दौरान वास्तविक प्रेषण 44.44 मि॰ टन (अनंतिम) का किया गया, जो कि 7% की वृद्धि को दर्शाता है।

(ग) कोयले की आपूर्ति किए जाने के मामले में विद्युत क्षेत्र को उच्चतम प्राथमिकता दी जाती है। कोयले को विद्युत गृहों को की जाने वाली आपूर्ति पर नियमित आधार पर एक अन्तर मंत्रालयीय दल द्वारा निगरानी रखी जाती है। विद्युत के उत्पादन को बनाए रखने के लिए जब भी आवश्यकता होती है, कोयला आपूर्ति को बढ़ाने हेतु उपयुक्त अपेक्षित कार्रवाई की जाती है।

Export of Wheat

827. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of wheat exported to foreign countries during the last three years alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) the details of 'duram wheat' which was exported alongwith the rate of export;

(c) the details of exporters of wheat; and

(d) whether any condition was laid down for export of wheat, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The total quantity and value of wheat exported (including durum wheat) during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Quantity (Mts)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1993-94	390	0.20
1994-95	86628	42.34
1995-96	617211	360.90

(b) The quantity and value of durum wheat expored during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. crores)	Average unit price realisation (Rs./MT)
1993-94	40	0.02	5128.28
1994-95	82	0.04	5300.54
1995-96 (April' 95-Jan. 96)	12032	6.64	5521.84

(c) Exports of wheat are being undertaken by private traders, export houses, trading houses, Public Sector Undertakings, etc.

(d) As per the EXIM policy the export of wheat is allowed on the fulfilment of following conditions/production of documents:—

(i) Quantitative ceilings as may be notified by the DGFT from time to time;

(ii) MEP as may be notified by DGFT from time to time;

(iii) Registration-cum-Allocation Certificates issued by APEDA.

Minimum Wages for Agricultural Workers in the Country

828. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to notice of Government that in a number of states agricultural workers' minimum wages have not been revised for more than three years;